

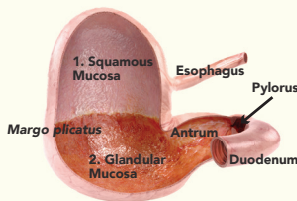
EQUINE GASTRIC ULCER SYNDROME

CARE PLAN ←

YOUR HORSE HAS GASTRIC ULCERS, NOW WHAT?

Treatment and management strategies for Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome (EGUS) depend on your horse, the severity and location of ulcers [squamous mucosa (1) versus glandular mucosa (2)] and what is practical for you.

The primary treatment goal for most gastric ulcers is to decrease stomach acid, raising the pH in the stomach, to allow ulcers the chance to heal. Before starting any treatments, consult your veterinarian on the best strategy for your horse.



Note: Image represents an empty, air-filled stomach as observed during gastroscopy

EXISTING DRUG CATEGORIES FOR EGUS

Antacids

- Do not affect acid production. Only bind already formed acid in the stomach, therefore have a very short duration of action

Histamine receptor antagonists (ranitidine, cimetidine, famotidine)

- May not be effective in healing ulcers when used alone and usually rely on frequent dosing¹

Proton pump inhibitors (omeprazole)¹

- Block the acid pump directly with once a day dosing
- Need to be specially formulated for adequate absorption
- Gastrogard® (omeprazole) contains a unique FDA approved formulation that protects the active ingredient and makes it effective versus compounded products that do not have to prove this protection or efficacy

ADDITIONAL DRUG CATEGORIES FOR EQUINE GLANDULAR GASTRIC DISEASE (EGGD)

In cases of EGGD, which appears to be caused at least in part by loss of the normal protective mechanisms in the lower region of the stomach, acid suppression alone is generally not adequate treatment. In these cases, two other drugs may be used: sucralfate and misoprostol. They may help stimulate healing of affected areas but are recommended to be used in combination with other drugs like omeprazole.

Sucralfate

- Mucosal binding agent which may provide physical protection as well as stimulate healing of ulcerated tissue
- Should only be used in combination with acid suppression

Misoprostol

- Prostaglandin analog that may stimulate blood flow and mucus production
- Has the potential to induce abortion in humans and potentially horses

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The good news is EGUS can be influenced by feeding and management strategies throughout the year. Here is a list of general recommendations you should discuss with your veterinarian.

Forage

- Increase overall amount of forage in the diet
- Feed forage via a slow feeder device to prevent periods of fasting
- Add alfalfa hay to the diet
- Feed hay prior to grain and prior to exercise

Concentrate

- Decrease overall amount of concentrate in the diet
- Feed smaller, more frequent meals
- Feed a lower starch concentrate
- Add corn oil (45-100 mL/1-3 fl oz) to the diet

Increase turn out

- Provide forage during turnout if no grass
- Ensure water supply during turnout
- Reduce stress
- Prevent boredom
- Provide suitable companion

WHAT ABOUT SUPPLEMENTS?

Gastric health supplements may be added to your gastric health management regimen when used along with a proven prevention protocol. Supplements should not be used as a substitute for FDA approved prevention products, as they are not required to prove the same safety or efficacy. Before using any supplement, talk to your veterinarian and look for supplements that have published research regarding their efficacy.

Use Ulcergard® (omeprazole) to prevent ulcers during times of known stress.
Use Gastrogard® (omeprazole) to treat ulcers when stress could not be overcome.



ULCERGARD IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

ULCERGARD® can be used in horses that weigh at least 600 lbs. Safety in pregnant mares has not been determined. Not for use in humans. Keep this and all medications out of the reach of children. In case of ingestion, contact a physician.

GASTROGARD IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

The safety of GASTROGARD® paste has not been determined in pregnant or lactating mares. For use in horses and foals 4 weeks of age and older. Keep this and all drugs out of the reach of children. In case of ingestion, contact a physician. Caution: Federal (USA) law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian

¹ Lester GD, Smith RL, Robertson ID. Effect of treatment with omeprazole or ranitidine on gastric squamous ulceration in racing Thoroughbreds. J Am Vet Med Assoc 2005;227:1636-1639.

SPECIFIC DRUG RECOMMENDATIONS

(AS RECOMMENDED BY DR. _____)

Horse Name: _____

Signalment: _____ Date: _____

EGUS DIAGNOSIS (location, grade): _____

GASTROGARD® (omeprazole) RECOMMENDATIONS

_____ tube (____ mg/kg) GASTROGARD once a day for _____ days.

Then _____ tube (____ mg/kg) GASTROGARD once a day for _____ days.

Then _____ tube (____ mg/kg) GASTROGARD once a day for _____ days.

Omeprazole absorption may be maximized by administering it into an empty stomach and waiting at least 60 minutes until the next forage meal.

_____ (tabs/scoops) Sucralfate _____ times per day. Ideally wait 30-60 minutes after any other drug before administering Sucralfate and then wait another 30 minutes to feed the horse.

_____ (tabs/scoops) Misoprostol _____ times per day. WEAR GLOVES when handling this drug.

Repeat gastroscopy on _____ (date) before the discontinuation of therapy.

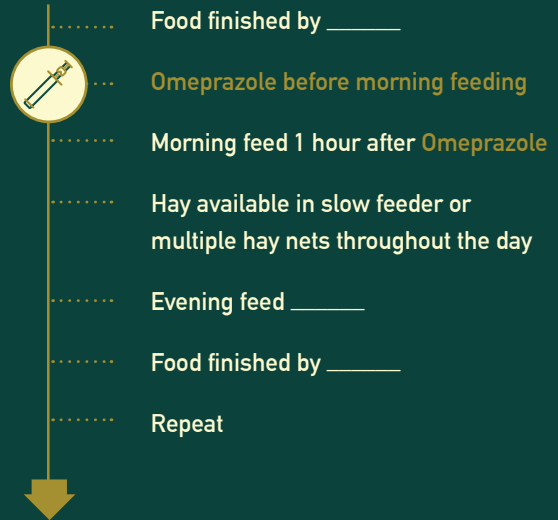
FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

TREATMENT AND FEEDING TIME CHART



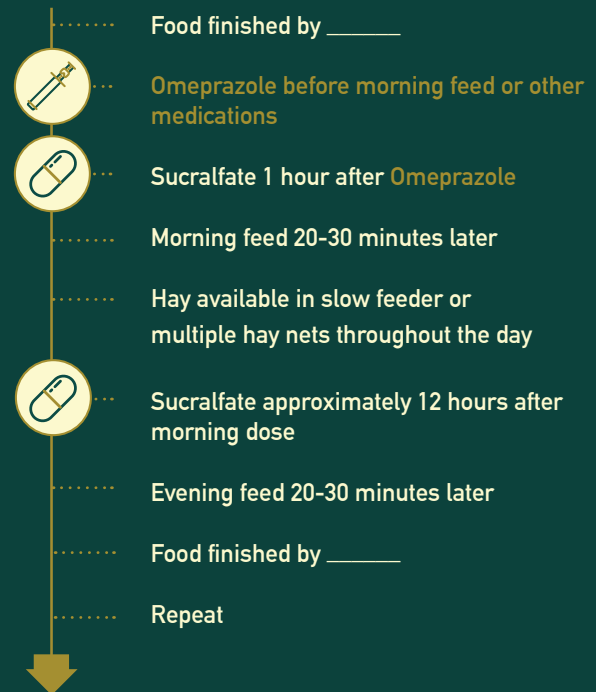
EQUINE SQUAMOUS GASTRIC DISEASE (ESGD)

SCHEDULE



EQUINE GLANDULAR GASTRIC DISEASE (EGGD)

SCHEDULE



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